



MONTANA FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

THE **OUTSIDE** IS IN US ALL.

Meeting Date: June 24, 2021

Agenda Item: 2021 Mountain Lion Quotas

Action Needed: Final

Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation: 20 Minutes

Background: Proposed harvest quotas for mountain lion are based on research, surveys, harvest and mortality data, and public comment. Below are proposed changes from 2020 quotas and subquotas. All other quotas and subquotas are proposed as unchanged from 2020 levels. Quotas apply to “any legal lion” unless otherwise noted and as influenced by subquotas.

Region 2

- Mountain lion hunting district (HD) 204/260/261/262: increase total quota from 5 to 6, increase female subquota from 1 to 2, and maintain male subquota at 4.
- Restructure mountain lion combinations for HDs 211 through 217:
 - HD 214: male subquota 2, female subquota 1
 - HDs 212/213/217: male subquota 5, female subquota 1
 - HD 215: male subquota 3, female 1

Region 4

- Mountain lion HDs 418/420/448: increase total quota from 8 to 10, increase female subquota from 4 to 5, increase male subquota from 4 to 5

Public Involvement Process and Results: The department received 7 comments regarding the mountain lion quotas recommended for fall 2021–winter 2022. The department is not recommending any changes in response to these comments because the analysis of monitoring data is incomplete at this date. The department plans to develop recommendations for mountain lion population management incorporating public input as identified in the 2019 monitoring and management strategy during following the biennial season setting process and subsequent commission direction.

Agency Recommendation and Rationale: The department recommendation is based on biological data, data on depredation and conflict, and public feedback. In accordance with the 2019 Mountain Lion Monitoring and Management Strategy, the department is recommending seasons and structures consistent with the strategy's intent and developing ecological planning teams to recommend objectives regarding population growth or reduction.

Proposed Motion: I move that the commission vote to adopt as final the 2021 proposed amendments to mountain lion hunting districts, quotas and subquotas as presented by the department, with all other aspects of the 2021 season unchanged except for any standard season calendar changes.